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## *News From Yonkers City Council*

### *President Chuck Lesnick*

October 4, 2008

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#### **Council to Meet on SFC's FEIS**



The Council has scheduled a special meeting to vote on whether to accept the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) prepared for the SFC projects at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, October 7 in Council Chambers.

By this date, the Council will have had this most recent draft of the FEIS to review for a period of 11 days. The Council has been reviewing and revising the FEIS with the help of its consultants since August. I am hopeful that this Tuesday the Council will conclude that this draft addresses all of the issues that were raised in the public comments concerning the DEIS.

To give a bit of background, the DEIS laid out all of the effects of the SFC project on Yonkers such as traffic, building height, affordable housing, and more. The public commented on

the DEIS last Spring. The FEIS responds to the public's comments and describes any significant project changes.

Later this month, the Council will issue Findings, which, among other things, will detail the mitigation measures necessary to address the environmental impacts identified and discussed in the DEIS and the FEIS.

There are several other actions that the Council and other City boards will have to take in the coming months. One will be the Land Disposition Agreement (LDA) which embodies the business terms between the City and SFC regarding the transfer to SFC of City property necessary for the project. Another action will be the site plan review by the Planning Board, which will examine detailed plans for the project.

The City Council will also have to approve the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district boundaries and the financing plan.

#### Landmarks Board Votes on 87 Nepperhan Ave.

In other news, the City's Landmarks Preservation Board, in a 6 to 2 vote this week, is recommending that the City Council designate 87 Nepperhan Avenue a landmark.

The art deco building next to City Hall was originally a health clinic, and many of the designs carved into the limestone exterior symbolize health or medicine. It currently houses municipal offices such as the Parking Violations Bureau and the Buildings Department.

SFC has proposed demolishing the building and nearby structures along New Main Street to build a parking lot with ground-level retail.

The Council has tentatively scheduled a Real Estate meeting for 7:30 pm on October 16 to discuss whether to landmark the building.

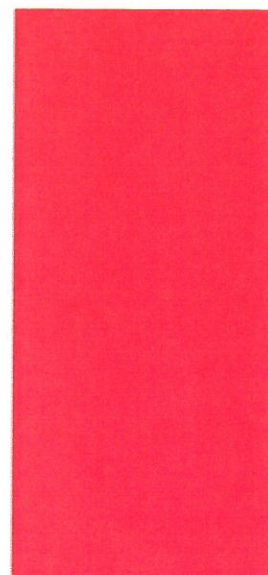
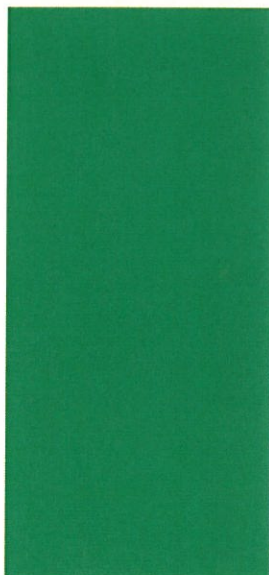
#### Columbus Day Parade

Yonkers 81st Annual Columbus Day Parade will held be Sunday, Oct. 5 at 2 p.m.

The route begins at South Broadway & McLean Ave. It proceeds north on South Broadway to Nepperhan Ave. and then onto New Main Street. From there it goes up Park Hill Ave. and ends at Columbus Park.

The City Council will honor those who gave their time to organizing the parade at a special reception to be held at 6:30 pm on

October 14 in the Council conference room at City Hall, followed by a presentation at our regularly scheduled Council meeting.





They include Carl Petrillo, Angelo Campanile, Dr. Robert Brittis, Pat Gambardella, Thomas Gambardella and Vincent Siani.

### Pulaski Day Parade



The 71st annual [Pulaski Day Parade](#) will be held on Sunday, October 5 starting at 12:30 pm. Parade goers will march up 5th Ave. from 29th St. to 53rd St.

This year's theme is celebrating the 400th anniversary of Polish

pioneers arriving at Jamestown Colony in Virginia.

*Photo cap: This year's winner of the Miss Polonia Westchester Pulaski Association contest, Ms. Anna Sutkowska, who will march in the NYC parade!*

### Avalon Bay Meeting

#### CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YONKERS NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING SESSION UNDER THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT

APPLICANT NAME: AvalonBay Communities, Inc.

PROJECT LOCATION: 79 Austin Avenue, Yonkers, New York (Block 3285, Lot 210)

DATE OF PUBLIC SCOPING SESSION: October 14, 2008

AvalonBay Communities, Inc. (the "Applicant") has petitioned the City Council of the City of Yonkers for an amendment to the Zoning Map of the City to re-zone the property located at 79 Austin Avenue, also known as Block 3285, Lot 210 (the "Site"), from IP District to M (apartment houses, medium density) District. The Site is approximately 20.3 acres. If the requested amendment to the Zoning Map is adopted by the City Council and the Site is re-zoned to M District, the Applicant intends to develop the Site with an apartment house community having not more than 450 units.

Pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder, the City Council, as lead agency, has issued a Positive Declaration of Environmental Significance and has required the Applicant to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement ("DEIS") to assess the potential environmental impacts of the proposed development.



The City Council will conduct a public scoping session for the DEIS on Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at 8 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York 10701.

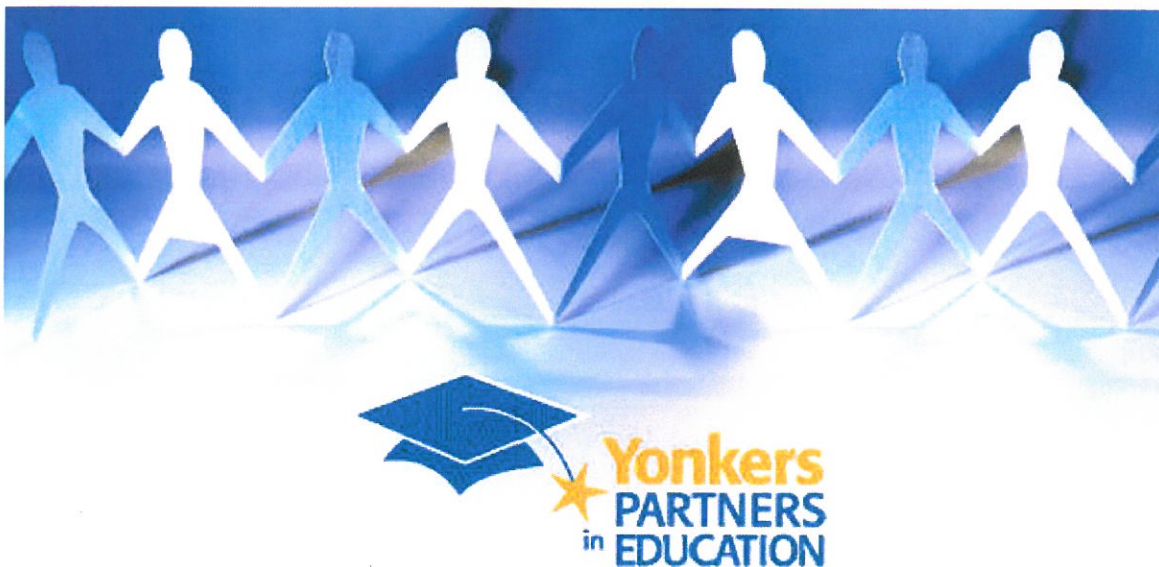
Click [here](#) for a copy of the Draft Scope.

#### Farmer's Market



The St. John's Farmer's Market is going strong, as fall crops come into play. Stop by with your green grocery bags to buy farm fresh produce such as kale, squash and peaches as well as wonderful baked goods on Thursdays from 8 am to 4 pm through November.

#### Yonkers Partners in Education (YPIE) Gala



Join hands to benefit the school children of Yonkers by attending a fabulous fundraiser at 6:30 pm on Thursday, October 30 at Villa Barone Manor in the Bronx.

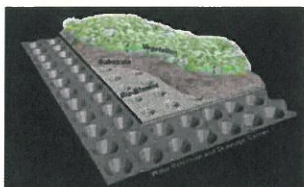
Enjoy cocktails and a silent auction followed by dinner and dancing.

The beneficiary, Yonkers Partners in Education (YPIE), is a non-profit organization striving to give children attending Yonkers Public Schools access to quality educations in preparation for high school graduation, college, work, and success in life.



To purchase tickets, click [here](#) or call YPIE directly at 914-377-4882.

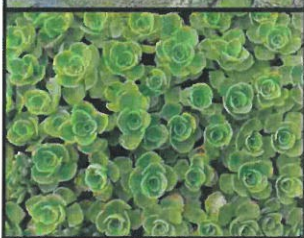
### Sarah Lawrence College to Install Green Roof



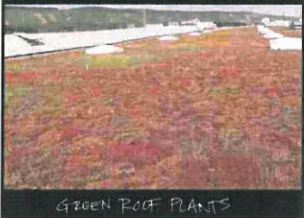
SmartRoofs, a subsidiary of [Sustainable South Bronx](#) (SSBx), and [Sarah Lawrence College](#) (SLC) are co-hosting an event called, "Green Roofs, Green Jobs!" at 10 am this Saturday, Oct. 4 on the SLC campus in Bronxville. (Last week's event was rescheduled due to rain.)



The event will showcase SmartRoofs' first official green roof installation, followed by a press conference at 11:30am with heroes of the green-jobs movement and local elected officials. There will be locally-grown refreshments, tabling from Yonkers community organizations, music, tours of SLC's newly retrofitted Green Dorm, and a networking session.



SmartRoofs, a green roof installation company based in the Bronx, is guided by SSBx's mission to create environmental justice through innovative, economically sustainable projects that are informed by community needs.



The installation date coincides with the national day of action, "Green Jobs Now!"-- calling for Green Collar Jobs as a way to lift people out of poverty and restore our planet. By employing graduates of SSBx's Bronx Environmental Stewardship Training program (BEST) to install and maintain the green roofs they design, SmartRoofs will show this solution in action.

For more information about the day's events, or to reserve a table for your organization, please contact [Justin Butler](#) or call 860-573- 9564.

### Yonkers Profile



*Editor's note: This is a new section in which we pose man-on-the-street questions of the day.*

Robert Moment, Yonkers resident for 16 years. Married with two children in the public schools. Marketing and sales promotion executive.

Q. What do you like best about Yonkers?

A. "I love living in the Ludlow Park section of Yonkers because it is very close to Manhattan. We moved from Park Slope,

Brooklyn and needed proximity to the city so we wouldn't feel like we were in the "burb burbs." My wife and I take advantage of the city every chance we get. It's only a 5 minute walk from my house to the Metro-North train to commute there for work. We like that our kids can walk to their school from our house. And I love my little neighborhood. It's quiet, peaceful and friendly."



Q. What would I like to see change in Yonkers?

"I would like to see our taxes reduced. And I would like to see more money put into the school system and into education. Other than that, I think it is a well-run city."

#### Upcoming Events



Please mark your calendars for the following events:

Saturday October 4 at Noon. Blessing of the Animals, St. John's Church Courtyard, Getty Sq.

Oct. 2 - Nov. 2. "Ceramic Expressions" at Riverfront Library, part of ["All Fired Up,"](#) Westchester's celebration of clay and ceramic art.

The [Downtown BID](#) is pleased to be a partner with the New Netherland Museum in welcoming the [Half Moon](#) to Yonkers in October. The Half Moon is a full-scale replica of the original Dutch ship of exploration sailed by Henry Hudson for the Dutch East India Company in 1609.

Saturday October 18th: Children's Events  
 Sunday October 19th: Visual Arts Day  
 Saturday October 25th: Performing Arts Day  
 Sunday October 26th: Harvest Fest

Sunday, October 19th from 4-7 p.m. Evolution Arts is hosting an exhibit unveiling of 100 newly-installed, historical photographs of Yonkers and its citizens at 66 Main Street in downtown Yonkers. There will be a tour of the art and refreshments on the rooftop deck.

Click [here](#) to see the invitation.

#### Free Computer Classes

Adults can work one-on-one with a computer savvy student in a free, six-week course being offered in area high schools this fall through STACK (Students Teach Adults Computer Knowledge.) The program is part of the [Jewish Council of Yonkers](#).

Here's the schedule of 2008 Fall Classes:

Gorton High School -Tuesdays @ 2:45 p.m., Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, Nov. 18, 25

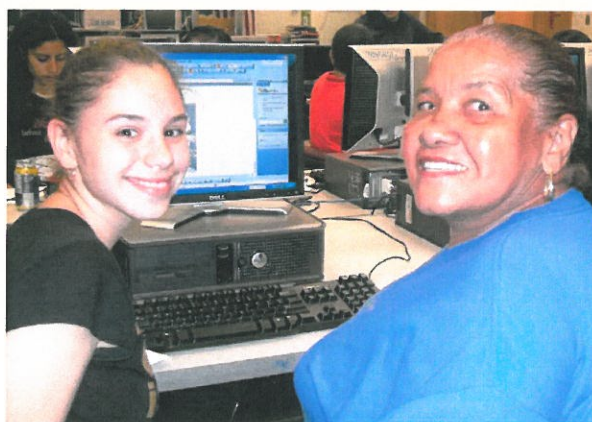
Lincoln High School- Thursdays @ 2:45 p.m., Oct. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20

Riverside High School- Mondays @ 3:30 p.m., Oct. 6, 20, 27, Nov. 10, 17, 24

Roosevelt High School- Thursdays @ 2:45 p.m., Oct. 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec. 4

Saunders High School- Wednesdays @ 3:00 p.m., Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19

White Plains High School- Mondays @ 3:00 p.m., Oct. 6, 20, 27, Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1



White Plains High School- Wednesdays @ 3:00 p.m., Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 3

For more information call 914-423-5009.

### Knock if You Dare



[Philipse Manor Hall](#) announces a "knock on the oldest door in town" free Halloween party from 4-7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 31 to visit the manor and explore its grand interior by twilight.

There will be haunting tales told, macabre music to unsettle the senses, a scary scavenger hunt that will lead you to the dark corners of the house, and a costume contest for adults and children held in the remarkable Gothic Chamber beginning at 6 pm.

Place: 29 Warburton Avenue, at Dock Street, in Yonkers. On-site parking. Call (914) 965- 4027 or email [Brittany Wheeler](mailto:Brittany.Wheeler@oprhp.state.ny.us) at [Brittany.Wheeler@oprhp.state.ny.us](mailto:Brittany.Wheeler@oprhp.state.ny.us).

[Read on...](#)

Written by Laura Fahrenthold

email: [chuck.lesnick@yonkersny.gov](mailto:chuck.lesnick@yonkersny.gov)

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